

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings includes changes to show at least three grooves.

Attachment: Replacement sheets (3)

REMARKS

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 1-10 are currently being prosecuted. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider his rejections in view of the amendments and remarks as set forth below.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings as not showing the plurality of grooves. By way of the present Amendment, Applicant has amended each of the drawings to show at least three grooves. No new matter has been entered.

The Examiner also pointed out that the drawings did not show the end of the second resilient member 31 as being fixed into a circular groove 21. The claim has now been amended to instead refer to the fixture 30. The drawings now meet this description in the claims.

Claim Objections

The Examiner objected to the claims due to informalities in claims 1 and 7. In regard to the phrase "a connecting measure", Applicant has removed this phrase. In line 7, the second circular groove has been changed to the first circular groove. This terminology has been followed throughout the claim so that the claim includes the first circular groove, the second circular groove and the plurality of grooves. Applicant submits that the language utilized now makes this differentiation clear.

In claim 7, Applicant has rewritten this phrase to make it more clear.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-10 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. The Examiner points out a number of problems involving antecedent basis and the need to refer to first or second in relation to several elements. By way of the present Amendment, Applicant

has amended the claims so as to differentiate between the first and second resilient members and the first and second latch members. Antecedent basis has now been provided where necessary. In regard to the term "top", Applicant has instead used the more common terminology "circumference". In regard to the term "aslant", Applicant has changed this to "slanting". Accordingly, Applicant submits that this rejection is now overcome.

Specification

Applicant has amended the specification and Abstract to place it in better form for examination. Applicant has utilized the term "circumference" and "slanting" in the specification in order to following the new claim language.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is gratefully acknowledged that the Examiner consider the subject matter of claims 1-10 as being allowable if rewritten to overcome the indefiniteness rejection. Since these claims have now been amended to overcome this rejection, Applicant submits that the claims are now in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

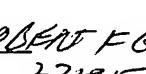
In view of the above remarks, it is believed the claims now meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. In view of this, reconsideration of the rejection and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Robert F. Gnuse, Reg. No. 27,295 at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: October 19, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments